GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:368
ANSWERED ON:17.11.2016
Clearance to Polavaram Project
Majhi Shri Balabhadra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any forest land in Odisha and Chhattisgarh is likely to be affected due to construction of the protective embankments for Polavaram project, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether consultations were made with State Governments of Odisha and Chhattisgarh before granting clearance to Polavaram project;
(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(d) the manner in which the interest of both the States are likely to be protected in lieu of Polavaram project clearance ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(Dr. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) As intimated by Government of Andhra Pradesh, no forest land is required for construction of protective embankments along the Rivers Sabari & Sileru in the territories of Odisha & Chhattisgarh.
(b)&(c) The approval of the project is in accordance with the provisions of Inter State Agreement which is the part of the Godavari Water Dispute Tribunal (GWDT) Award.
(d) As per the Award, States of Odisha and Chhatisgarh are to opt for either payment of compensation or for protection of areas by protective embankments with adequate drainage sluices. Further, benefits to the States of Odisha and Chhatisgarh from Polavaram Project are as follows:

â€¢ Odisha is to get about 142 Million Cubic Meter (MCM) of water annually which is likely to provide irrigation in about 30,000 ha of area or serve drinking water requirement of about 30 lakh population or a mix of both.
â€¢ Chhatisgarh will get about 43 MCM of water annually which is likely to provide irrigation in about 10,000 ha of area or serve drinking water requirement of about 10 lakh population or a mix of both.
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